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| Lesson: Research & Opinion Piece  Driving Question: What are the pros and/or cons of an aquaponics system? | | | | | |
| Learning Goals:   * Students will research aquaponics systems that are found locally, nationally, or internationally. * Students will research the benefits and drawbacks of aquaponics systems and write an opinon paper. | | | Time Frame:   * Research: ongoing * Writing: 1 week (?) | | |
| Assessment: Formative   * Documentation of local, national, and international aquaponics systems * Citation of all resources * Opinion Paper | | | Materials:   * Access to computer time * Access to resource materials | | |
| Common Core ELA Standards:  4.W.1-Write an opinion piece (product target)  4.W.8-Recall and gather relevant information (knowledge & skill product)  4.RI.9-Integrate information to speak or write about topic (skill product) | | | | | |
| Procedure:   1. Students will research aquaponics systems found around the world, including in their local community. Students will keep a log of all of the systems they find locally, nationally, and internationally throughout the duration of this unit. 2. Based on their research of existing systems and aquaponics itself, students will decide if they would like to write an opinion paper in support of aquaponics systems, or to argue against aquaponics systems. Students will research to support their claim and provide evidence of their research. 3. Students will write an opinion paper stating their claim and using at least two resources to support their claim. | | | | | |
| RUBRIC | 4-Exceeding | 3-Meeting | | 2-Approaching | 1-Well Below |
| Makes a Claim  4.W.1a | I clearly introduced my topic and my opinion is clearly evident. | I introduced my topic and my opinion is evident. | | I introduced my topic but my opinion in not evident. | I have not introduced my topic and my opinion is not evident. |
| Provides Reasons  4.W.1b | I clearly provided reasons for my opinion and they are supported by facts and details. | I provided several reasons for my opinion, but only supported one or two with facts and details. | | I provided some reasons for my opinion, but have no supporting facts or details. | I have not provided reasons for my opinion. |
| Linking Words  4.W.1c | I consistently used varied linking words and phrases to connect my reasons to my opinion. | I used linking words and phrases to connect my reasons to my opinion. | | I have used some linking words and phrases to connect a few of my reasons to my opinion | I have not used any linking words or phrases. |
| Conclusion  4.W.1d | I provided a concluding statement that clearly connected to my opinion. | I provided a concluding statement that is somewhat related to my opinion. | | My conclusion is incomplete. | I have not included a conclusion. |
| Research  4.RI.9 & 4.W.8 | I have at least 3 sources of information that I used for my paper. | I have 2 sources of information that I used for my paper. | | I have 1 source of information that I used for my paper. | I did not collect any information for my paper. |